

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are currently pending. Claims 1-7 were allowed. Claims 8-31 were rejected. Claims 8, 13, 20-31 have been amended.

Amendments to the Specification

The applicant has amended the specification to correct minor errors. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The examiner has rejected claims 8-12, and 27-31 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. In particular, the examiner as objected to the use of the term "M" for not being clearly defined. The term " M " as used in claims 8-12 and 27-31 is defined by its placement as superscript of the summation symbol Σ . Nonetheless, in order to advance the prosecution of the present application the applicant has amended claims 8 and 27 defining the term " M ". Support for the amendment to claims 8 and 27 may be found on page 7, lines 9-15 and the equation recited in claims 8 and 27.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

Claims 20-31 were rejected under 35 USC § 101 for being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The applicant has amended claims 20-31 in the manner suggested by the examiner. Support for the amendment to claims 20-31 may be found on page 15, line 24 to page 16, line 13 of the applicant's specification.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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